By order of the Commander in Chief.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE, 31st May 1808.

1984.

A TREATISE ON MILITARY EQUITATION AND LIGHT CAVALRY DRILL,

PUBLISHED FOR THE USE OF THE

REGIMENTS OF CAVALRY

SERVING UNDER THE

PRESIDENCY

OF

FORT ST. GEORGE.

MADRAS:

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HEAD QUARTERS OF THE ARMY,

31st *May* 1808.

G. O. By the Commander in Chief.

To ensure one uniform and general system throughout the Cavalry, the Commander in Chief is pleased to direct Officers Commanding Corps to adhere strictly to the rules laid down in the following Treatise on Military Equitation and Light Cavalry Drill, by Captain Neville of His Majesty's 19*th Regiment of Light Dragoons, now published for the guidance and practise of all the Cavalry serving under the Presidency of Fort St. George.*

TREATISE

ON

MILITARY EQUITATION

AND

LIGHT CAVALRY DRILL.

Prospectus for taining Man and Horse.

THE following sketch of Military Horsemanship and Light Cavalry Drill, is meant to comprise only what relates to training and forming the Dragoon and Cavalry Horse, and preparing both for the Ranks.

Rules for *setting up* Men, *Facing*, *Marching*, *Carbine Drill*, and *Sword Exercise*, having been laid down and fully explained elsewhere, are purposely omitted here; it is intended only

Breaking the young Horse fit for Squadron.

1st. To commence with the young Horse and have him broke properly, and fit for Squadron.

Previous instruction to the Recruit before he mounts his Horse.

2dly. To instruct and practice the Recruit in some preparatory attentions relative to saddling and bridling his Horse, which are indispensibly necessary for him to understand well, before he mounts him.

Mounting and Dismounting.

3dly. Mounting and Dismounting.

4thly.

Horsemanship.

4thly. Proceed in his instructions in Horsemanship.

Light Cavalry Drill in all its branches, Recruit fit for squadron, Man and Horse ready for manœuvre according to His Majesty's Regulations.

5thly. Cavalry Drill in all its successive and essential branches in which when completed the Man and Horse will be delivered over to the Squadron of manœuvre, thenceforward to be governed by His Majesty's Regulations for the discipline of the British Cavalry.

BREAKING THE YOUNG HORSE.

Forming the young Military Horse.

Strict superintendence of his training.

Gentle treatment altho' aukward or restive.

Moderation and patience the best means of reclaiming him.

Command of temper necessary to a riding school assistant.
Severity towards the Man or Horse punished.

The first rudiments of instruction to the young Military Horse, is to the Cavalry Service, of (nearly) as much importance as those of the Dragoon. ---No part of the duty of a Cavalry Corps requires more circumspect superintendence and arrangement than that of forming the unbroke Cavalry Horse,—he should be treated with the utmost gentleness and indulgence at all times, and altho' at first he may be aukward, or even restive, which often proceeds more from attempting to force him to perform what he does not understand, than from any natural perverseness of temper,---moderation and patience are the most certain means of reforming and improving him; it is therefore an indispensible qualification in a rough rider, to have the most perfect command of temper in the riding school; severity or harshness to Man or Horse should be positively interdicted, and any breach

breach of such order, exemplarily punished.

Great attention and caution are requisite at first in saddling and bridling the young Horse—when the saddle is first put on, the girths should be rather loose, and lightened only by degrees, and a careful person should have an eye over him for three or four days, in order to prevent the saddle from turning under his belly. ---By accidents of this kind occurring thro' inattention or neglect, Horses have been so terrified as to be unable to endure the sight of a saddle for weeks after—he should be well accustomed to the longe before he carries his saddle and bridle there, and for some time a snaffle bridle only.

First saddling and bridling the young Horse.

Loose girths.

The saddle turning under the Horse's belly, and bad consequences resulting.

First longed without saddle or bridle.

The Horse should get his first lessons in an easy cavesson, carefully put on, and particular attention to its not pinching him in any part is necessary, for owing to neglect of this at first, Horses are frequently shy about the head ever after,—he should be led round the circle, lengthening out the longe by degrees till he understands the figure, goes freely round to both hands, and the rough rider turns in the centre.

First lesson without a Rider in the longe, cavesson carefully put on, bad effects of neglect in above, to be led thro' the figure in hand, to right and left at a walk.

When he walks freely round to both hands, he may gradually be pushed into a trot increasing the pace by degrees, and preventing him as much as possible from galloping, till he is confirmed in a fair full trot, when he has gone

The trot in the longe and mode of treatment in that pace.

To the right then to the left.

gone sufficiently round to one hand, he should be brought up to the centre of the circle, patted and encouraged if he has done well,---reined back a few steps and brought up again---he is then to be longed to the other hand with the same attentions as before, and finish by reining back and moving up again.

Rein back, move up and finish.

The gallop, and mode of treatment in that pace to the right.

Being well confirmed in the trot, and going at a full rate in that pace, he may be pushed into a gallop, a sleugh of the long whip may be necesssary to animate and assist him, but he is not to be struck unless he is so sluggish as not to go without it—he must not be permitted to *gallop false*, that is leading with the outside legs before and behind, or *disunited*, that is leading with the off leg before and near behind; or vice versa—when he has gone a few rounds correctly he may be permitted to fall into a trot, which is generally accomplished by gently shaking the long rein—then walk by the same means—brought up to the centre of the circle---reined back and brought up again, patted and flattered, the same process to the other hand and finish.

False gallop.

Disunited gallop.

Fall into a trot then walk.

Brought up to the centre, gallop to the left, rein back and finish.

Horses going readier to one hand than to the other. Remedy for.

Many Horses go more freely to one hand, than to the other---in this case a Horse should have a double lesson to the hand he is aukward at, beginning and ending to that hand.

Backing the young Horse by an experienced rider.

When the Horse is ready and well confirmed in all his paces and not before,

fore, the woodenMan is recommended to be used, when familiar with this, he then may be backed by a steady and experienced rider, and mounted and dismounted several times before he is moved---the first mounted lessons should be in a snaffle bridle, tho' he may have been previously longed in a bit and curb---he should be led round the figure in hand, letting out the longe by degrees till he is familiar with his rider, when he may gradually proceed thro' all his paces first to one hand then to the other ;---in a few days the lesson in the square as laid down hereafter may immediately succeed to that of the longe——a regular and temperate perseverance in this mode of treatment and instruction will soon render him steady and ready in all his paces, and fit to be put into the ranks.

In a snaffle.

To be led round the figure in hand.

Put through all his paces.

Lesson in the square.

Soon steady and fit for the ranks.

Horses are frequently alarmed and shy at objects and sounds, because they apprehend injury from them, convince them to the contrary, and they will disregard them—the whip and spur should never be made use of on such occasions—if a Horse is shy at, and endeavours to avoid an object, he must not be forced up to it, but brought near it by degrees, the best mode is moving him in a circle round the object, contracting the circle by degrees till he comes close to it—if the object cannot be surrounded pass him by it backwards and forward

Shy Horses.

Neither whip or spur to be used with a shy Horse.

Mode of reconciling him to the object.

Another mode.

ward several times, approaching nearer each time till at length he will approach without fear or apprehension, but on no account is a young Horse to be brought direct up to the object of his fear—rearing and falling back are frequently the destructive consequences of so very rash and injudicious a measure.

Danger attending forcing a Horse directly up to the object of his fear.

Young Military Horses should be accustomed as much as possible to the fire of artillery and small arms—also to the waving of flags and beating of drums—pistols should be fired in their stables or lines at feeding time.—The Horses will soon understand it as the signal for feeding, and will be pleased instead of being frightened at it.

Military horses should be well accustomed to flags, drums and fire.

Pistols fired in the lines at feeding time.

The Horse being properly broke, and no Recruit should be mounted at first upon one who is not completely so, the next object is to provide him with a rider, and which shall be the subject of the next section.

Breaking the Horse completed.

Mounting the Recruit.

A few previous and important maxims should be well inculcated and explained to the young Cavalry Soldier before he mounts his Horse—in the first place he should be taught to consider his Horse as his best friend—that on his care of, and attention to him, and constantly keeping him in the

Preparatory explanations to the Recruit.

Attachment to and care of his Horse.

the best possible condition for service, the preservation of his own life may ultimately depend—that neglect of him, or using him harshly or cruelly, by beating him, spurring him, or jerking at his mouth violently, with the bridle, or in any other way ill-treating him, is highly unmanly, and unmilitary, and should ever meet with reprehension and punishment.

Severity towards his Horse highly culpable and deserving of punishment.

Much depends upon the first impressions stamped on the mind of the young Dragoon—if he is trained up to that species of attachment which should pervade the mind of every Man in the Cavalry service towards his Horse, the most beneficial consequences will be the result, and when it comes to the long march, and hard fatiguing day, his spontaneous good offices and solicitous exertions for the feeding and general welfare of his Horse will go farther towards preserving him in health and good condition, than all the authority of command, or with a view to neglect the menace of punishment.

First impressions important to the Recruit, benefit resulting to the service from attachment to his Horse, and Care of him when on service.

He is next to be taught to saddle and bridle his Horse properly—to take care that the saddle is placed well back, so as not to prevent the free movement of the shoulders;—that the girths are not too tight, and are evenly buckled, and that no ends of straps are turned up under the pannell, that the crupper is moderately tight and the hair of the tail entirely within

To be taught to saddle and bridle his Horse. Rules for placing the Saddle. Girths.

Ends of Straps.

Crupper.

within the crupper dock piece*—That the bridle is well fitted and easy to the Horse's head—that the bit is properly placed in the Horse's mouth, the best rule for which is the mouth piece to touch the upper part of the mouth, without wrinkling the lips—that the curb is well put on, so that by turning the end link on the near side, until it will turn no more, and which will be when all the links are in their proper places, and flat to the Horse's jaw, and then placed on the curb hook, that the nose band is so buckled that two fingers can be easily turned between the leather and the Horse's nose, which will allow him full room to play on the bit, a circumstance which should always be promoted as much as possible, as tending to lighten the Horse's mouth as well as the rider's hand—that the throat band is sufficiently loose buckled to admit of four fingers being turned easily round between it and the Horse's head—this last is a very important circumstance to be attended to, the Horse, whose throat lash is tight buckled can never carry his head well—if he attempts to arch his neck, and drop his nose into a proper and graceful position, the tight band stops his breath, and he

Bridle.

Bit.

Situation of the Bit.

Curb how put on.

Nose band to fit easy,

The Horse to have room enough to play on the bit.

Throat band buckled loosely.

Bad consequences of the throat band being buckled too tight.

* The crupper dock piece should have a buckle and strap on the near side, and the crupper hang loose until the saddle is properly girthed on, and then and not before the crupper put on, and buckled at its proper length.

he then raises up his nose to ease him of the inconvenience—inattention to this is the true cause of so many Horses poking their noses, as it is phrased.

The cause of many Horses carrying their heads badly.

Horses who carry their heads very round, should have more room still allowed in buckling their throat bands, than what is above described.

Horses who arch their necks to have looser throat bands.

The Horse being properly saddled and bridled by the Man himself, and not by a Horsekeeper, is led by him into the Riding School where a properly qualified person is ready to commence his instructions by teaching him to mount as follows:—

The Man to saddle and bridle his own Horse and bring him to the Riding School.

MOUNTING.

The Horse standing even, the Man on the near side of the Horse, and fronting the same way, with his heels together, and in a line with the Horses fore feet;—his right hand up at the eye of the bridoon, and his left hanging down by his side—on the command—*Prepare to mount* he faces to the right, quitting the bridoon with his right hand, seizes the end of the rein with the finger and thumb of the right hand, lays his left hand on the Horse's neck, just before the withers; introduces the little finger of the left hand between the reins at the end, and at the same time takes hold of the reins with the forefinger and thumb of the same hand; the reins are then shortened by drawing them strait

Method of mounting and necessary attentions.

Prepare to mount.

Mounting motions and attentions.

strait up with the right, thro' the finger and thumb of the left hand, which is not to be moved from its place, but be steadily kept on the Horse's neck, —when properly shortened, the loose part of the reign to be thrown with the right hand to the off side of the Horse's neck—a handful of the mane to be taken with the right, and put into the left hand, which retains both reins and mane with a firm grasp—the Man then steps half a pace to the right and a little to the rear, takes a hold of the stirrup leather, at the place where the leather runs through the eye of the stirrup iron, turning the stirrup, ready to put his foot in, and remains steady; on the word

Mount. *Mount*, he puts his foot into the stirrup, makes two hops lightly on the right foot, at the second of which he springs up, catching a hold of the off side of the cantle of the saddle with the right hand, stands upright in the stirrup for a moment, raises his leg and thigh, and passes them over the Horse's croup, shifting at the same time his right hand from the cantle to

Recruit seated in his saddle. the pommell of the saddle, and resting the whole weight of the body on that hand, till lightly and smoothly seated in the centre of the saddle.—The off stirrup is then taken; reins adjusted---and the Man and Horse is ready to proceed.

DISMOUNTING.

DISMOUNTING.

Dismounting.

On the command---*Prepare to dismount* the reins are seized just above the bridle hand with the right hand, the fingers of the bridle hand are loosened, and that hand is brought down by slipping the reigns through the fingers to the same place on the neck as before mounting, a handful of the mane is taken with the right hand, and with a half twist inwards to the left, put into the left hand, the right hand placed on the pommell of the saddle as before, and the off stirrup quitted.

Prepare to dismount.

Dismounting motions.

On the word *Dismount*, the right leg and thigh are well raised and passed over the Horse's croup, shifting at the same time, the right hand from the pommell to the cantle of the saddle, when the right heel touches the left a momentary pause is made, then dismount quitting the mane and rein with the left hand, turning the body to the front---stepping forward with the left foot, taking hold of the eye of the snaffle or bridoon with the right hand, and remaining steady and upright.

Dismount.

Recruit dismounted and standing at his Horse's head.

POSITION OF THE MAN ON HORSEBACK.

Man's position:

The Dragoon should be seated exactly in the centre of the saddle, not too much on his twist or fork, nor too much back, the head gracefully up—shoulders square—the body inclining a little backwards--- left elbow hanging

Seat.

Head.

Shoulders: Body, Left elbow.

ing down easily from the shoulder with its own weight, and touching the side--- the bridle hand about 4 inches from and opposite to the centre of the body, and the height of the elbow with the wrist rounded and knuckles turned in the thighs well turned into the saddle skirt--- legs hanging down with their own weight, and lightly touching the Horse's sides, with the calves of the legs well turned outwards, heels sunk lower than the toes, and the ball of the foot resting lightly on the bars of the stirrup, the length of the stirrup should be measured when the Man's legs are extended well down by touching the bar on which the foot rests to the middle of the inside ancle.

Bridle hand.

Wrist and knuckles.

Thighs and legs.

Heels.

Length of stirrups

LESSON IN THE LONGE.

The Recruit being mounted in the Riding School and placed in the prescribed position, a cavesson is put on the Horse, and the teacher holding the end of the longe, he is walked a few turns to the right—he may be permitted to make use of his stirrups from the first, the former mode of beginning without stirrups might in some cases have advantages, but none sufficiently weighty to counterbalance the injury sustained by the service from the number of Men disabled by ruptures from riding first without stirrups—nor is the correct position of the thighs, legs and feet to be too scrupulously enforced at first; most men

Recruit in the longe.

Walk to the right.

Permitted the use of his stirrups.

Rupture often the consequence of riding without stirrups.

Position of the thighs, legs and feet.

Men when they begin to ride stick as fast as they can to the saddle with the hams and calves of the legs; but as the first point to be accomplished is to keep them on their saddles, let them stick on by any means at first, the hard hold soon becomes tiresome and painful, and the balance of the body will soon introduce itself, which when understood, the limbs are easily placed in any position necessary—after going to the right, the Man and Horse are brought up to the centre, and are then put round a few turns to the left, attending minutely to his instructions, and as the first lessons in the longe are supposed in a snaffle bridle, he is to take a rein in each hand—The outside hand to be carried higher than the inside.

Sticking by hold of the legs.

To be permitted at first.

Balance of the body.

Walk to the left.

Snaffle reins how divided.

After a few lessons as above, the Horse may be put into a gentle trot for three or four turns to the right, the inside rein shortest, and the rider's body leaning to the inside of the circle, he is then brought up to the centre of the circle, the teacher explaining to the Man any thing he does not seem to understand, and remarking where he had done well, and where he might have done better, then a like number of turns to the left, explaining and directing as before.—The lesson may be finished by reining the Horse back, that is by raising up his head, pulling the bridle stronger than usual, but with a lively feel, or if one feel will

Trot to the right in the longe.

Explanations by the teacher.

Trot to the left.

Lesson to finish by reining back and moving up again.

will not do, with a succession of lively feels—when sufficiently back, halt, and bring him forward to the ground from which he first reined back.

Gallop in the longe.

When the Recruit has been well practised at a trot, and firm on his Horse, he may be permitted to proceed to a gallop—the Horse must lead with the inside leg before and behind, and the rider should be taught to know when the Horse goes false, without looking down at his legs, practise and attention will soon enable him to do this, as when a Horse gallops false or disunited, his motion is always rough, broken and unpleasant to his rider; as the Horse increases his paces, the rider's body should lean proportionally more back, his legs must be kept steady and not work against the Horse's sides, and the spurs are by no means to be applied unless an absolute necessity occurs, in which case it will be pointed out to him by the Instructor.

Leading with proper legs.

Galloping false or disunited how to be known by the rider.

Position of the body and legs in the gallop.

Spurs not to be used without orders.

Usefulness of a light and a lively hand.

The Teacher cannot too often recommend, or too strongly inculcate the propriety and advantage of a light and lively hand on horseback—to forward this desirable end, when a Recruit begins riding with a snaffle bridle in the longe, he should be taught to play the bit, lightly in the Horse's mouth, and constantly to feel and ease it, this by preventing the Horse from leaning on the bridle, and the Man from pulling a dead weight at

Playing the bridle to the Horses Mouth.

Feeling and easing the Horse's mouth by motion of the wrist.

at the Horse's mouth, will tend much to lighten the hand of the young rider at his first outset---when he comes to ride with bit and curb, his Horse should not be allowed to move four yards at any pace without relaxing the reins, and gently feeling his mouth again, this should be done by the motion of the wrist of the bridle hand only, the arm from the wrist to the shoulder being at all times on horseback, and in all paces to be kept perfectly steady, the left elbow touching the side, and not to move or be influenced by the Horse's motion, more on this subject in treating on the lesson in the square.

Steadiness of the bridle arm and left elbow.

RIDING LESSON IN THE SQUARE.

The dimensions of the riding square used in this country are generally 60 yards by 30, and are well adapted to lessons for 12, 16 or 20 men at a time, but for 6 or 8 men at a time a square on a smaller scale will answer better ---45 yards by 20 is a good size---the dimensions of a military riding house in England are but 100 feet by 40.

Riding square 60 yards by 30 for large squads.

Square 45 yards by 20 for smaller squads.
Military riding house 100 feet by 40.

The riding lesson heretofore in use appears not to have been well calculated to promote the progress of military horsemanship---The dull, insipid detail of one Horse following another in a square for a few turns each way, was but ill adapted to the purpose of calling forth, and bringing into play the activity of the rider's hand, or the firmness

Former mode of riding lesson, dull and heavy.

Effects on the Horse.

firmness of his seat, or the powers and vigour of the Horse, and sensibility of his mouth. It had precisely the contrary effect, the Horse never accustomed to turn but at the corners of the square, became stiff and heavy on the hand, and with his head down as low as his knees---And the rider knowing that his Horse possessed sagacity enough to find out and turn the corner without any assistance from him, became indolent and careless, and permitted his Horse to play at follow the leader in his own way---The consequcnces were inevitable; ---if the rider wanted to turn his Horse to right or left in going along a side of the square, the Horse not having a fixed and well marked corner near, probably refused the turn, and the rider from a torpid and unexercised hand being unable to accomplish the thing in any other way, had recourse to that favorite expedient of all bad horsemen, *i. e.* sticking both spurs into him, and if the Horse had spirit enough to resent this and made battle, the affair probably ended in a separation of bodies.

Becoming thereby stiff and indolent.

Bad effects on the rider.

Unready Horse.

Improper use of Spurs & bad consequences resulting.

Slow improvement of Man and Horse.

Proceeding in such a course the Man and Horse must improve very slowly, if they could be said to improve at all, and when their course of instructions was completed according to this mode, they would be capable of little else than a straight forward movement—the fire and spirit of the Horse

Capable of straight forward movements only.

Horse chilled and the activity and vigour of the rider remained dormant through inaction and indolence.

From inaction & indolence.

The system of military horsemanship here offered as a substitute for the above is calculated to obviate and remedy in a great measure its inconveniences and defects, it possesses in an eminent degree the advantage of keeping the attention of both Man and Horse continually on the stretch during the whole practise, and what in a military point of view seems of considerable importance, is that it saves time, and enables both Man and Horse to be formed for the ranks in little more than half the time formerly employed for the purpose and in a very improved degree; to the experienced horseman its advantages over the former system are so obvious that to be acknowledged, it only requires to be seen.

Another system of military horsemanship offered.

Its advantages over the former.

Saves time. Men and Horses thereby much sooner formed.

The Man mounted in the square, placed correctly in position on horseback as before directed, the left elbow hanging with its own weight under the shoulder, and touching the side, the bridle hand the height of the elbow, about 4 inches from the centre of the body with the wrist rounded;—when the Horse's head is properly raised up, the reins ought to be of such a length as to vibrate with the touch, the little finger only dividing the reins.—The man is then taught—*Bridle hand right,* that is the hand

Position of a mounted Man in the square.

Left elbow.

Bridle hand.

Length of reins.

Bridle hand right.

hand turned with the thumb pointing to the right, and rather downwards, the back of the hand uppermost, which will shorten the right rein, and is the feel requisite to turn the Horse to the right; when the Man is instructed in this, and understands the reason of thus turning the hand, he will be directed to place his hand in the original position.—Then *Bridle hand left*; on which the hand is to be turned inside uppermost, the thumb pointing to the left, which shortens the left rein, and then after explanation bring the hand to its first position—all this is to be done by the movement of the wrist only, the lower arm to be kept perfectly steady, and considered as a pivot on which the wrist turns, and the bridle hand, not to move from its place.---Nothing can be more absurd than to see a Man when he wishes to turn his Horse to the right crossing his hand to the right of the Horse's neck, by which he slackens the right rein which should be tightened to turn the Horse, and tightens the left rein which should not be felt, and is therefore a complete system of counteraction---The experienced horseman can turn and manage his Horse without the smallest motion of the hand being perceptible to a spectator, force or strength not being at all necessary.—Horsemanship consists really in a few signals established between the rider's hand

Bridle hand left.

Horse to be managed by the movement of the wrist only.

Absurdity of crossing the bridle hand to the right in turning a Horse to that hand.

System of counteraction.

Motions of bridle hand of an experienced horseman imperceptible to a spectator.

In what really consists the management of the Horse.

hand and the Horse's mouth, which when the Horse fully understands, he will conform to instantly, let them be ever so light, and the lighter the better, but to accomplish this the Horse must be rode with a very steady and light hand.---The first great object therefore in which a young rider should be instructed well, is that of commanding the perfect steadiness of the left arm, so as not to be in the least moved or influenced by the Horse's motion at any pace, for if the arm of the bridle hand is permitted to shake and jerk up and down, every step the Horse goes, particularly in a trot, gives a false and violent feel to his mouth.---The sensibility of which by this means is soon destroyed, and when his rider wishes to turn and stop him, the Horse cannot distinguish between the signal for that purpose, and the constant habitual jerk or dead heavy feel at his mouth, or the signal is given with encreased and discriminating violence, which in the end, or indeed in a very short time, will utterly ruin the Horse's mouth, and the Man's hand also.

A steady and light hand.

Importance of commanding the steadiness of the left arm.

Inevitable bad consequences arising from the unsteadiness of the left arm.

Ruins the Horse's mouth and the Man's hand.

It has been observed before that a Recruit should never be mounted but on a thoroughly well broke Horse—if this holds good in regard to the Private, in what a very multiplied degree does it apply to the young Cavalry Officer, on whose horsemanship so much may hereafter depend

Necessity of young Officers being mounted at first, on well trained Horses.

Men improve by copying after their Officers.

depend—Men are imperceptibly induced to copy the manners of those whom they are accustomed to look up to, with veneration and respect and with whom they are in the daily habits of intercourse and military duty, they will without knowing or intending it imitate even the very defects of superiors, whom they esteem, the position and performance of Officers on horseback have therefore considerable influence on the Men under their command---it has often been observed, and truly observed in Dragoon Regiments in England, that where an Officer was remarkable for the gracefulness of his figure on horseback, and his skill in horsemanship, the Men of the troop to which he belonged were generally better placed on horseback, and rode better than those of other troops in the same corps, altho' the Officer probably had nothing to do with their riding instructions.

Position and performances of Officers on horseback influence the men.

Good effects arising to troops from discipline of Officers.

A well qualified Teacher, and a well trained Horse indispensibly requisite for the young Officer.

Description of a well trained Cavalry Horse.

It is therefore indispensibly necessary that the young Cavalry Officer should receive even his incipient riding instructions under a well qualified Teacher, and on a steady and well trained Horse, who from his head being properly placed, his mouth light, his movements and evolutions cheerful and ready, and his paces decided and true, will demonstrate and realize the theory of the Teacher's instructions.---The Teacher directs his

his Pupil to make an evolution with his Horse by a movement of his hand, he is astonished at the correct alacrity, with which he is obeyed---he tries it again with the same result---he tries other movements, under direction of the Teacher, he finds equally ready obedience from his Horse in all, he is in fact deriving the advantage of double instructions, the Horse by his performance, elucidating and impressing on the mind of his rider, the verbal lessons of the Instructor, he becomes delighted with the art, and looks forward to his lesson, and all his operations on horseback with pleasure—his improvement is proportionally rapid, and he becomes at length what every Cavalry Officer ought to be, an excellent horseman.

Good effects to a young rider, from being mounted on such a Horse.

The Teacher very much assisted by such a Horse in forming his Pupil.

The responsibility for the riding department in a corps of Native Cavalry being vested in a European Officer would be productive of much benefit to the Service, he would take pains for his own convenience to search out for, and select such Men belonging to the corps as from having a turn for horsemanship, he might bring forward and instruct so as to become useful assistants to him as rough riders.

Beneficial consequences arising to the Service from the department of Riding being placed upon a proper footing.

The Man having been practised to bridle hands right and left until he understands it, is ordered to move in the figure to the right at a walk—and at the word *right about—turn* (with a pause

The Recruit in the riding School.

Walking lesson to the right.

Right about turn.

Mode of performance.

Forward.

Attentions to the Horse's mouth.

Left about turn.

Circle entire right about turn. Method of performing.

Forward.

To be performed 4 times to each hand.

pause sometimes long, sometimes shorter, between the words "*about*" and "*turn*" he immediately turns his hand as before directed in bridle hands right, moving the Horse in a small semicircle, or rather semi-oval brings him about and immediately on the word "*forward*" moves on to the left, without the least pause or alteration of pace, should the Horse not immediately obey the first feel at his mouth, the rein should be relaxed for a moment and his mouth felt again with a lively animated feel, on the same principle he brings the Horse about on the word "*left about---turn*" and moves him on again to the right, this may be repeated twice to each hand, or thrice or more according to the manner in which it is executed, but never less than twice.---He is next ordered *circle entire to the right about —turn,* on which he turns his hand as in "*bridle hand right,*" bends his Horse to the right, raises his head, and by pressing him, with the calf of his right leg, turns the Horse on his haunches, till he completes the entire circle, and then on the word *forward,* goes on as before—the diameter of the circle entire in which the Horse is brought about at a walk, may with a trained Horse be about 3 yards, an aukward Horse will require more room at first—This evolution should be practised at least 4 times to each hand at short intervals during the lesson,

lesson, after the performance of which to the right, follows,---*circle to the right---turn* on which the Horse is turned by the same means in a circle to the right, and continues circling till 4, 5 or 6 evolutions at least have been gone through, and then on the word *large* the walk in the square is resumed,-- right about turn changes to the left, and the same circling is performed to the left by similar means---the word *left about turn* is then given and *forward,* on which he goes on to the right, and is then ordered to *trot* when he animates his Horse and presses him into a fair full trot, and by word of command performs the same evolutions to the right and left in the trot, as he did before in the walk, and by the same means.

Circle to the right turn.

4, 5 or 6 evolutions to be performed and then

Large.

Change to the left. The same lesson to the left.

Change to the right.

Trotting lesson & mode of performance to right and left.

When the trotting lesson has been gone through to right and left, he is brought round by the word *left about ---turn* and *forward* moves him on to the right, and having received a caution, that he is to gallop at a named corner, when he arrives there he animates his Horse, puts him well together, carries his head a little to the left by a lively turn of the bridle band, and at the same instant pressing him suddenly and strongly with the calf of the left leg, puts him into a gallop to the right, when steady in the gallop the word is given *circle entire to the right--about--turn,* on which he makes a

Change to the right.

Galloping lesson to the right.

Method to be used in putting the Horse into a gallop.

Gallop, circle entire to the right about.

a lively, but at the same time a gentle feel at the Horse's mouth and turns him as ordered, and *forward* he gallops on as before, this should be repeated 3 times more, and then *circle to the right—turn* on which he turns his Horse in a circle to the right, and continues galloping in that circle till he gets the word *large*, when he resumes his original direction, and repeats it once more—he is next ordered to *trot—right about turn*, gallop at a named corner and perform the same evolutions to the left, then *trot, left about—turn*, gallop at a named corner, go on half a turn of the square, form up at the gallop---*halt* with the body back, *ease hands—attention—by the right rein back—march—halt*; twice more and *halt---by the right---march*---move up to the original ground at a gallop, *eyes front---ease hands* and dismiss.

Forward.

Gallop, circle to the right.

Large.

Trot and change.

Gallop to the left and perform the same evolutions as to the right.

Trot, change and gallop to the right.

Form up—halt.

Ease hands, rein back and finish by moving up again.

Throughout the whole of this lesson the left arm being kept immoveable and uninfluenced by the Horse's motion is of the utmost importance, it is the first and leading step to a light hand with the rider, and a manageable mouth with the Horse, every means must be used to prevent the man pulling a dead weight at his Horse's mouth, and also the Horse leaning and bearing heavy on the Man's hand.

Importance of the steadiness of the left arm and bridle hand.

Highly beneficial to the Man's hand and the Horse's mouth.

The Man pulling at the Horse's mouth, and the Horse bearing on the Man's hand to be prevented.

The rider's legs must be kept steady and hanging with their own weight and

Position and steadiness of the rider's legs.

and lightly touching the Horse's sides in circling, an animated pressure of the calf of the leg to the Horse's side, if well timed will much assist him in turning to the right with the right leg and vice versa to the left.

Aids from the calves of the legs.

In galloping, if the Horse is high spirited and makes frequent pulls at the bridle, he should not be resisted with the bit, but the rider's hand be softened down and giving way to the pull, collecting the Horse afterwards by degrees, for if when the Horse makes his pull, he is met by another from the rider's hand, he flies into a passion, becomes intemperate and unmanageable, springs forwards,---breaks his pace--changes his legs, and probably plunges and gets rid of his rider ; all this may generally be prevented by moderation and forbearance in the rider; in horsemanship it is often prudent to cencede two or three points to the Horse, thereby to acquire half a dozen afterwards.

Attentions and forbearance with a high spirited Horse.

Bad consequences of being violent or intemperate with him.

A few points to be sometimes given up to the Horse.

A discriminating moderation, and most invincible good temper towards the Horse, are certainly the most essential perfections in the character of a horseman and particularly with those who direct and superintend the training and forming of military Horses---and it is strongly incumbent on them to exact from all those employed as assistants under their direction in that department, equal degrees of patience and gentleness towards the animal,

Moderation and good temper essential qualities in the riding department.

To be exacted from rough riders and assistants.

Bad result of mutual intemperance in Man & Horse.

mal, for when both Man and Horse are permitted to act under the influence of passion and resentment, nothing but what is injurious to the Service can be the result of their mutual violence.

Series of riding lesson for a squad.

The following series may be generally considered as the form and order of the riding lesson in the square for a squad, or a single Man and Horse.

WALK TO THE RIGHT.

Walk to the right

Walking lesson (supposed for a squad) *by the right---march*; and when entered a Horse's length in the square, to *the right file*, the right hand turns to the right and moves on in the square, all the others half turn their Horses to the right and halt, and follow successively till they have their intervals, the best general rule for which will be, that whatever number the squad may consist of, they will occupy the whole square at equal intervals---should the number be less than 8---half the square of 60 yards by 30 will be sufficient for their lesson divided in the same way. *Right about---turn*,---forward, *left about turn forward* to be repeated 3 times more *circle entire right about---turn---forward* to be repeated 3 times more at unequal periods---*circle to the right---turn, large*, when 4, 5 or 6 evolutions have been performed to be repeated once more and then *right about---turn forward*,

General rules for intervals in the square.

Right and left about turn 4 times.

Circle entire right about turn to be repeated 3 times more.

Circle to the right turn and perform —4, 5 or 6 evolutions to be repeated once more.

Change to the

forward, and proceed through the evolutions to the left, as before to the right, and then, *left about—turn, forward, trot* to the right, and perform the same number and description of evolutions and by the same words of command as in the walk to the right, which when completed, ***right about---turn---forward*** continuing the trot going on to the left, and performing the same number of evolutions and by similar words of command to the left, as before to the right, then *left about—turn forward*, and being cautioned to gallop at a named corner proceed in a gallop to the right, and when at a steady gallop and every Horse leading with the proper legs before and behind.

left and perform the same number of evolutions to the left and by the same means as before to the right.

Change.

Trotting lesson to the right, and the same evolutions as when at a walk.

Change.

Trotting lesson to the left.

Change.

Galloping lesson to the right.

Gallop.

Circle entire right about—turn—forward to be repeated 3 times, and then

Circle entire to the right about.

Gallop.

Circle to the right—turn—large and after 4, 5 or 6 evolutions have been performed then trot.

Circle to the right trot.

Change.

Right about—turn—forward and gallop at a named corner to the left; when in a steady gallop,

Galloping lesson to the left.

Gallop.

Circle entire left about—turn, forward, and then *circle to the left—turn*—4, 5 or 6 times then large—then *trot—left about turn*, gallop again at a named corner to the right, and then—*to the right* (or rear) *form--halt* the leader--all the others form up at a gallop and halt in line—*eyes front—ease hands—attention. By the right rein* back

Circle entire to the left about and circle to the left.

Trot.

Change.

Form up.

Eyes front.

Ease hands.

Rein back 3 times and finish.

back.—March—halt,—twice more with a halt between each,—*at a gallop—by the right* (or left) *march—halt---eyes front—ease hands*---and dismiss.

Dismiss.

Reason of no right or left about turn in galloping.

N. B. In galloping to right and left, the right and left about turn are purposely omitted as belonging to a more advanced state of horsemanship, than is here supposed---it is nevertheless very simple, for after completing the series of evolutions to the right, and being to change to the left it is no more than instead of trotting to change, the half circle is galloped to the right, and allowing the Horse to make one more stroke to the right, and then a lively change of the hand to the left, and feeling him strongly with the left leg at the same instant, he will if properly trained change his legs, and proceed to the left without intermitting one stroke of his gallop, and is changed from left to right by corresponding means.

Mode of changing in a gallop without intermission of pace.

Attentions to the hand and seat of the rider, and position and performance of Man & Horse.

During the whole of the foregoing lesson the Teacher must pay the most unremitting attention to the several circumstances of the Man's hand and seat, and to the position, carriage and performances of both Man and Horse—short reins and a light and lively hand must be particularly insisted upon—in circling or turning a Horse, he is never to be allowed to stop, or slacken his pace or to go back, but to make all turns with an advancing and rather an accelerated motion,

Short reins and a light lively hand.

Horses to be turned and circled by an advancing and accelerated motion.

motion, with his head high, and his haunches well under him—he must therefore not be turned or circled by a sudden pull, which may bring him to a halt, but by a light brisk pressure of the rein, turning his nead, and animating and assisting him at the same instant by a lively pressure of the calf of the leg to his side.

And by light aids from hand & leg.

Spurs should at all times be very sparingly used—more Horses are injured and spoiled by their intemperate misuse, than by all other irregular and violent means put together.

A restricted use of spurs.

The Instructor must be particularly careful in judiciously timing his words of command, and attentive, that the pause between the cautionary and executive is constantly varied in point of time, for on this point, and the judgment of the Teacher much of the good effects of this lesson will ultimately depend---for instance when he gives the word---right about---he is to look minutely to every Man and Horse in the square, and be satisfied that the ordered rate of pace is continued without intermission or diminution before he gives the concluding word turn---at other times when he sees all right, the word *turn*, may rapidly follow the caution—beginners at this lesson all shew a propensity at first to slacken the Horse's pace before turning, but a little attention and correction at the outset soon divests them of it.

Attentions of the Teacher to unequal pauses between cautionary and executive words of command.

Mode of timing words of command.

Attention to Horses paces not being shortened, previous to turning.

It

Evolutionary figures to be correctly described.

It is of considerable importance that, the figures of the circles and semicircles should be truly described by each Horse, and attention is necessary to the correct preservation of intervals, as every Man and Horse has an allotted space to work and perform their evolutions upon, they must therefore confine themselves to that space in order to avoid trespassing upon or interfering with their neighbours in front and rear, particularly in circling at a gallop.

Attention to intervals and not interfering with other Horses in circling.

As in this climate for the most part of the year, the mornings soon become so very hot, that the period allotted for military exercises requires to be made the most of, and therefore any circumstance which tends to promote the economy of time is worth attending to---for this reason particularly and generally because they were of little use---the doubling and changing used in the former system are purposely omitted in this ;---it should be the object of the Teacher to select the best trained Man and Horse from each squad, when in the square to lead the ride ---when the walking lesson is completed to the right---the files are turned to the right about, and the same file leads to the left,---and the same in the trot and gallop---by this means in a single lesson in a square of 60 yards by 30, a space equal to 900 yards is saved which were before

Doubling and changing purposely omitted. An expert Soldier and steady Horse selected to lead each squad.

To both right and left in all paces.

900 Yards of ground saved in a single lesson by omitting doubling

fore rode over, with no other advantage than that of a few turns of the Horse, who from habit and the sameness of the operation could perform them with very little assistance from his rider, and no exertion whatever on his own part.

and changing, which was always of little use.

An established rule is, that no Horse should be permitted to gallop in the square, until he is capable of carrying his rider through the whole figure of the lesson at a fair and full trot.

No Horse to gallop until he is steady at the trot.

It should be received as an incontestible truth, that art, and not force, is the surest means of succeeding in training all descriptions of Horses, and in forming all denominations of riders.

Art preferable to force with both Men and Horses.

That patience and temperance towards the Horse, are the most desirable qualities in a rider, and in a Teacher; indispensible accomplishments in the treatment of both.

Patience and temperance in Pupil and Teacher.

That all misunderstood lessons should be finished correctly by persevering patience and forbearance, there is scarcely a single case can possibly occur where violent means, or severity become necessary to be adopted.

Misunderstood lessons corrected by forbearance and moderation, and not by severity.

Horse Drill.

When a number of Recruits are well forwarded in the riding lessons, they

Recruits at double open files.

they may then commence the Horse Drill—they may be put 8, 10 or 12 in a rank at double open files, that is a Horse's length asunder---moved in line, and advanced dressing by right and left alternately, retired by each file singly turning his Horse to the right or left about, halted, advanced again by alternate files, and retired in the same manner, form up---halt and finish by reining back and coming up again; it will be sufficient to rein back at twice, once by right and once by left, and move up at twice by right and left also.

Advance and retire by alternate files.

Halt & rein back

The words of command for this lesson are as follows;—

Words of command and instructions for performing the first lessons of Horse Drill.

When drawn up in line at double open files,—by the right—march, a trained and steady Man and Horse should be on the right to take points to march upon, the great attention required at this period is to keep every Horse's head pointing straight to the front he marches to, and to prevent the Recruit from turning his Horse's head to the hand in which his own is turned in dressing—this is a most important circumstance to be attended to at all times—halt—*files right—about—turn—march—halt—dress by the present left—by the present left—march*, every circumstance attended to as before—*halt—files left about—turn—march—halt—dress*—to be repeated reversing the dressing, that is at the second advance dress by the left

halt

halt---and turn to the left about. Retire by the present right---*halt*---come to the right about, and form.

Advancing and

Alternate files advance, *left files by the right---march---halt---dress* to the hand marched to---*right files---march*--and pass thro' the intervals of the left files, and beyond them as far as the space at which they halted in front of right files—halt—dress and thus alternately as long as necessary—half a dozen times advancing alternately dressing to right and left may be sufficient.

Retiring by files.

Alternate files retire, right files, right about turn—march—halt—dress to the hand ordered---*march---files right* (or left) *about---turn---halt— dress* as ordered.—Then *left files---left about—turn—march—halt—dress*—march to the hand ordered, and when sufficiently retired, *halt—right—*(or left) *about—turn—halt—dress* as ordered, and thus continue retiring as long as thought proper.

To be finished by dressing.

In this lesson the dressing may be varied during the march of each rank of files to right, left and centre, which will much tend to keep up the Men's attention, and when understood the retiring files may get the word *files right* (or) *left about,* and after a pause *turn—halt—dress,* and next lesson it may be varied to *halt front,* on which the right files come to the right about, and if the rank is composed of left files, to the left about, the word dress to an

an ordered hand is immediately given.

Reining back and advancing again.

By the right rein back---march as before directed---*halt---do. left---do: right* and advance to original ground.

FILING.

When the foregoing lesson is well understood they may then be closed to open files, or half a Horse's length asunder and commence filing—*from the right to the front*—file, on which the right hand file advances straight to the front half a Horse's length and halts, all the other files turn their Horses half to the right and *halt—march*—the right hand Man moves forward at a walk on two placed points, all the others as it comes to their turn successively, turn their Horses into file, and follow the track of the leader, with half a Horse's length interval and covering well, the best rule for covering is that the Man and Horse next in front hide all the others in front, and of course brings them into a straight line of files —*halt to the front form—march*— the whole move and follow the rank of the leader, and when they successively come close up in his rear, turn the Horses to the left, move on till opposite their places, then turn to the right into line and halt—dressing to the right.

Filing from the right to the front.

Covering in file,

and forming to the front.

But if troops are well exercised and the ground clear of obstacles, on the word,

Mode of forming by the diagonal march of files.

word, *to the front form,* the leader stands fast, all the files in his rear, half turn their Horses to the *left* and *halt*—march---the whole move at the same instant on diagonal lines to their places, or rather to within two Horses length of the aligument when they will turn their Horses square, and move gently into line---this formation will admit of being made with great rapidity.

Can be performed with great rapidity.

From the right to the rear file, the right hand Man turns his Horse to the right about, all the other half turn their Horses to the right and halt—*march* the right hand Man moves straight forward, all the others successively follow his track at half a Horse's length, and when sufficiently to the rear *halt.*

Filing from the right to the rear, and forming to the rear.

To the rear form—the right hand Man turns his Horse to the right about, advances half a Horse's length to the front and halts—the other files remain steady. March ! right hand Man stands fast, all the others move at the same instant—pass on his right and successively form up to him by doubling round, and coming up in line on his left.

From the right to the right file---the right hand Man turns his Horse full to the right and halts, all the others half turn their Horses to the right and halt. *March* the right hand Man moves straight to the right, the others successively follow him as it comes to their

Filing from the right to the right.

their turn, and when sufficiently to the flank *halt.*

Horses to be turned into file, with an advancing motion.

N. B. In getting into file, the Horses must not be permitted to go back, every Horse must be turned with an advancing motion, and make one step forward before turning into file.

Forming to the left.

To the left form---the right hand Man or leading file turns his Horse to the left, moves up half a Horse's length and halts---*march.* He stands fast, all the others move at the same instant successively, turn to the left, close in to the leader, and halt in line.

Performed on similar principles to the left.

The foregoing modes of filing from the right and forming to the front, rear and flank successively indicate how they should be performed to the left.

Open files close to loose files.

Filing at loose files by the same rules and on the same principles as at open files.

Half a Horse's length interval at open files and 1 yard only at loose files.

When the above has been sufficiently practised at open files they may then be closed to *loose files* that is 6 inches from boot top to boot top, being the habitual order of Cavalry in manœuvre and filed from right and left, to front, rear and flanks, upon the same principles and by the same rules, as at *open files,* the only difference is, that instead of *half a Horse's length* distance between the files, when in motion at open files—*one yard* only between head and tail is allowed when in motion from *loose files.*

Filing from the centre of squa-

From the centre of squadron (or division)

vision) *to the front file.*—On this caution the two files on the left of the right half squadron, and the two files on the right of the left half squadron with the standard, and its reserve move forward front and rear rank in their places, a space sufficient to clear them of the division or squadron and halt---the files of the right half squadron half turn their Horses to the left, and the files of the left half squadron do the same to the right---*march,* the 4 files in front move on taking points of march, the right half squadron file from their left, and cover the two leading files of their own half squadron—the left half squadron file from their right, and follow the two leading file of theirs, the front file of both wings, covering, the leading four dressing to the standard which retains its place & marches on points of view ---*Halt---front form squadron,* the standard and 4 leading files stand fast, the files of the right, half squadron half turn to the right, those of the left half squadron half turn to the left and *halt—march* the whole move to their respective flanks and successively turn their Horses square, and move up into line, dressing by their centre—In all filing the rear rank Man, invariably dresses to his front rank Man.

dron or division to the front.

Mode of performing.

Points of view & attentions.

Method of forming to the front.

Rear files dress to the front file.

WHEELING.

The wheeling drill should at first be

First wheeling lessons at single ranks.

be composed of single ranks of 8, 10 or 12 mounted men, and it will much promote the instruction, if an experienced Soldier is placed on each flank mounted on a steady Horse.

Dressing by the left in wheeling to the right.

In wheeling to the right, all eyes are turned to the left (or wheeling) flank, except the right flank Man, who looks inwards to the rank, and takes care to describe the quarter circle correctly, at the same time allowing sufficient room for the rank to move during the wheel, with the files as loose as when moving in line to the front.---The Horses heads during the wheel are to be bent a little to the hand they wheel to, and the centre and right are to be attentive that they do not come round, before the wheeling flank Man, but conform to whatever pace he moves at, which must be a steady one—when the word *halt—dress* is given, the Horses heads are turned straight to the front, and the dressing is to the standing flank file, who is to turn his Horse gradually on his fore feet during the wheel, conforming to and turning into the direction of the wheeling flank Man, and both halting and placing their Horses square at the same moment.—The dressing to the standing flank after the wheel must be regulated by the wheeling flank file, as these two points, once halted and placed, are never to be moved in dressing, but all the intermediate

Easy files.

Horses heads to be bent a little to the wheeling hand.

Attentions of the centre and right.

Halt and dress to the standing flank.

Attentions of flank files.

Flanks not to be moved after a wheel, but intermediate files dressed between the flank points.

mediate files are to be brought into a straight line, between them.

At the word march, after the caution to wheel to right or left—half—quarter—eighth or the smallest portion of the quarter circle, every Horse must be put in motion at the same instant, and no Horse is on any pretext to be halted even for a moment till the wheel is completed—those near the standing flank having but very little ground to go over, must move at a slow pace, turning their Horses gradually into the direction with, and steadily dressing to the wheeling flank Man; so that should the division be unexpectedly halted at any moment of the wheel, the line should be as correct as if halted in a line moving to the front, the general faults in wheeling are mostly occasioned by the men near the standing flank, and those in the centre, not conforming attentively to the movement of the wheeling flank file, but by getting too forward render it impossible for him to come round at a proportionably rapid pace to keep the line correct during the wheel.—To obviate this very prevalent mistake, the file on the wheeling flank should be instructed never to conform to any alteration of pace in any part of the rank during the wheel, but allowing full room for the rank to wheel at loose files describe correctly the ordered portion of the circle at a steady

In wheeling every Horse to be put in motion at the word march, and to continue moving during the wheel.

Files near the standing Flank move slow.

Ranks correctly dressed during the wheel.

Occasion of general faults in wheeling.

Attentions of the wheeling flank file to

uniformity of figure, pace and rate, during the wheel.

steady and uniform rate, and as it is the duty of every Man in the rank to look steadily to and be guided by him, he is not in the smallest degree to be influenced by, or conform to any alteration of pace, or partial irregularity in any part of the rank during the wheel.

Yielding to pressure from the standing flank and resisting it from the wheeling flank.

Pressure from the standing flank during the wheel must be yielded to a little, but all pressure to the standing flank should be resisted, particularly in wheeling from open column into line, otherways if any of the column, which always are on the standing flank should be pressed upon, and removed from their places —the general line will thereby be disordered, in proportion to the distance they are removed from their proper places in the alignment.

Bad consequences of pressing on the pivots of a column.

Erroneous direction for turning Horses heads outward in the wheel exploded and reasons why.

The very erroneous direction often given in wheeling for the Horses heads being turned outwards on a supposition that it facilitates and gives more room in the wheel, should be exploded, as it has directly the contrary effect, for the Horses having their heads turned to the left, while they are describing a quarter circle to the right, must move side foremost, with their legs moving in lines crossing each other, and thereby taking up double the space allotted to them in the wheel, must occasion confusion and disorder in the whole.

Horses to be bent to the hand they wheel to,

It therefore becomes indispensibly necessary

necessary in order to wheel well, that every Horse should be bent to the hand he wheels to, so as with his head to describe the sweep of whatever portion of a circle is ordered to be wheeled—by this means, and by this only, can Horses move parallel to each other, with as much freedom, and without crossing their legs during a wheel as when in line, and advancing to the front.

and thereby move as parallel as when advancing in front.

In wheeling, the rear rank must rein back at the standing flank; must incline and cover away well to the wheeling flank, still keeping their distance of half a Horse's length, from their front rank file leaders. —The front rank wheeling on a fixed pivot is not affected by this direction, whereas the rear rank being obliged to wheel on a sliding pivot, must attentively conform to it.

The rear rank to rein back, incline and cover to the wheeling flank.

Front rank wheels on a fixed pivot, and rear rank on a sliding pivot.

Wheeling circle to the right and left is a most excellent lesson for both Man and Horse, (that is) continuing the wheel to either hand, the wheeling flank at a gentle canter for as many rounds as are necessary, and which must depend upon the judgment of the Instructor—Horses well practised at this lesson will always lead with the proper legs to both hands.

Wheeling the circle to right and left, an excellent drill lesson for Cavalry.

INCLINING.

This is a very important Cavalry movement being the most decisive mode of gaining an enemy's flank without

Inclining an important movement in gaining a flank.

without breaking the order of the line, and no pains should be spared to promote and ensure a correct execution of it, nor is it so difficult as is supposed, or as it appears at first sight, when taught on true fundamental principles. The best direction for instruction and indeed for general execution is on an angle of 45 with the front which gains equal ground to front and flank, suppose then a division ordered to incline to the right on the above angle from a halt, on the word of command, *to the right incline,* each Man half turns his Horse to the right at the same instant, by turning his head to that hand at the same time pressing his croup to the left with the right leg, the centre of the Horse's body being considered as a pivot on which he is turned, the right hand Man immediately takes, or is shewn points of view in the prolongation of the line on which his Horse then stands, and on the word *march,* the whole rank moves at the same instant, dressing by the right and great attention is necessary at first to prevent the Horses from being more or less turned during the march than they were in the original direction before they moved, and that no Horse is permitted to move so as to cross his legs, which a little attention from the rider will always prevent.—If the Horses are turned more to the right, than at first, the left will be

Not so difficult as is generally supposed.

The angle of 45 the best general direction.

Right incline.

Horses to be half turned to that hand.

Points of view taken in the diagonal line.

The whole put in motion at the same instant.

To march steadily in the oblique direction.

No Horse to cross his legs in inclining.

Consequences of Horses not being kept in the true direction.

be brought too forwards, if less turned, the same flank is thrown too much back—strict attention to the uniformity of the pace ordered should be required, and no Man permitted to shorten or lengthen the pace, altho' it may appear to him that he is too forward, or too back in the rank, for what he may imagine to be his own fault may really be the fault of a file at some distance from him, and by making an exertion with an intention of rectifying the supposed fault, he is actually going wrong himself, for when the file with whom the fault originated is set right, he then from his relative situation with respect to that file is obliged to make a counter movement also to get into his proper situation again, and if all the files on his left have multiplied the mistake by conforming successively to his false movement, they must each perform a similar movement in order to get right again

No alteration of the ordered pace allowed.

Imaginary mistakes often productive of real ones.

Consequences.

Indeed it appears to be the best way to begin with recruits when moving in line to the front, by directing them not to move up or fall back in the rank, although it may at the moment appear to them that they are too forward or too back, but direct their whole attention to keeping their Horses heads straight to the front they are marching to, and preserving the correct uniformity of the ordered pace unbroken on any pretext, and the

The Horses kept in a true direction, and attentions to the uniformity of pace the best correctives for abuse.

the same in inclining when moving on an angle of 45.

The angle of 34 gains more ground to the front, that of 56 more to the flank.

If it is required to gain more ground to the front than flank the angle of 34, and if more ground to flank than front 56 are the usual proportions, but for all general purposes, the angle of 45 will be found to answer best.

Inclining to the left on the same principles as to the right.

The detailed instructions for inclining to the right sufficiently indicate how it should be performed to the left and render further detail unnecessary.

The word front resumes the original direction to the front, forward the original march to the front.

When the division has inclined sufficiently the word *front* is given, on which every Horse is turned square to the original front. The Men's eyes continuing to be turned as during the incline forward by right, left or centre as ordered.

RANKS BY TWO'S.

Ranks by two's preferable to filing, but an inferior movement to ranks by three's.

This is a formation perferable to filing when a small front is required, but very inferior to ranks by three's in military utility, it is a successive movement and formation, and cannot like ranks by three's be formed up at once.

Wheeling by two's to the right.

Mode of performing.

On the word, *two's right wheel*, which is always understood to mean ranks by two's, each Horse is half turned to the right as in filing and inclining, *march* the right file turns his Horse full to the right, and his left file comes up on his left, their rank

rank coverers do the same, and they move on to the right four Horses in front and dressing by the left, all the other right and left files successively wheel up the same way, and follow in column—*halt*. The whole halt at the same instant, and if the line is to be formed to its original front, the command is *to the left form*, on which the front four wheel by two's to the left, move forward a Horse's length, the rear rank covering the front and halt. *March* the whole move, and successively as they come opposite to their places in line, wheel by two's front and rear rank separately, to the left, move up, and halt in line by the right.

Forming to the left.

Mode of formation.

The above sufficiently explains how it should be done to the left—it is a kind of double filing and all the breakings and subsequent formations may be made upon nearly the same principles as common filing to the rear right or left.

Performed to the left and rear by similar means.

RANKS BY THREE'S.

This is decidedly the most important, and excellent Cavalry movement yet discovered, and being equally applicable to the operations of the line as well as to the column in all situations whatever, at open, close, or half or quarter distance it simplifies, facilitates and accelerates manœuvres, in a greater degree than any other formation, or by any other mode hitherto known.

Importance and excellence of movements in ranks by three's.

Equally applicable to line or column.

Enables to take up positions in any direction without extension of space or order.

known. The line or column by the assistance of this movement is enabled to take ground or form their march, in taking up positions to either flanks or rear without the smallest difficulty, or in the least degree extending their original order—in moving in any direction the command

Ready formation after movements.

front brings them to their original front, and they resume their march to that front in an instant by the word

Advantages by filing from the right of three's in going over rough or broken ground.

forward.—A line of any extent moving forward and meeting with rough ground, or ground intersected by cracks, trees, stones or underwood, or any other natural or artificial obstacles, which may impede its advance, is relieved in an instant from its embarrassment by filing from the right of three's to the front, first the front three followed by the rear rank, the whole in single file which brings the line to

Method of filing from the right of three's.

depth of six Horses, the right hand Men of three's in the front rank preserving an interval of rather more than the front of two Horses from each other, and dressing as before to the centre of each squadron, the uniform front of the line is thereby neither contracted or extended and the other five Men covering exactly preserves the same interval from front to rear, when the obstacles are passed, or indeed at any instant during the march

Facility and rapidity of formations and instantaneous attack.

on the word *front form squadrons* the line is formed in an instant by the centre and left files moving up, and the

the rear rank closing to half a Horse's length and ready to move immediately to the attack.

Use in turning an enemy's flank.

By an oblique flank movement after filing from the right of three's, a corps may be thrown upon an enemy's flank quicker and with less probability of confusion or disorder, than perhaps by any other description of manœuvre.

Useful in marches.

In hot weather, and when there is much dust its adoption as an order of march, will be found peculiarly convenient, and tend to lessen the fatigue of Man and Horse.

Sections of threes a very convenient order of march.

If a march is required on a small front, sections of three's from right or left, the rear rank covering their front may be ordered with advantage in any direction, whether front flanks or rear as it equally applies to all,—by opening the files to a Horse's length from each other to front and flank the inconvenience of dust and heat may be much diminished.

At open files,

also after field days and at the close of a day's march.

After field days sections of three's will be found a convenient order of march, as by opening the files to a Horse's length in all directions, the free circulation of air will be promoted, and the Horses cooled by the time they reach their lines—and the same for the last two miles of a day's march.

Facility of forming ranks by three's from sections.

When marching by sections of three's and that the ground opens so as to admit of the march being made on a front of ranks by three's, and it becomes

becomes expedient to adopt that order, if the march in sections was formed from the right, the rear ranks of three's must incline to the right, move up and dress to the left, being the pivot flank, and in a line with their respective front ranks, but as the column is much lengthened by the march in sections, on such occasions to prevent irregularity of pace it will be best to halt the head of the column until the whole are closed up, and then resume the march.—Should the corps have marched by sections from the left, the rear ranks will incline to the left and dress up in forming ranks by three's.

after marching by right or left.

Method and attentions requisite in wheeling ranks by three's.

In wheeling by three's to the right on the command *three's right wheel—march,* the right and left of three's look up to the centre Man who turns gradually to the right on his Horse's fore legs, the right of three's reins back with his right leg to his Horse—the left of three's moves up, both right and left Men, looking and conforming to the turning of the centre Man and finishing together, the correctness of the movement greatly depends upon the centre Man keeping and turning exactly upon his ground, and to this last point the attention of a Teacher at drill should be particularly directed.

The centre Man of three's to turn exactly on his own ground. Right and left hand Men conform to the movements of the centre Man.

Wheeling to the left, and to right about by three's on similar principles.

Wheeling to the left by three's is the same, substituting left for right—wheeling to the right about is no

more

more than continuing the wheel upon the same principles as the quarter circle until the half circle is completed.

Wheeling to the left about not required.

It never can be expedient, to wheel the left about by three's so that it may be omitted in instruction altogether.

Filing from the right of three's in the sword exercise.

Preparatory to the performance of the sword exercise, filing from the right of three's brings the whole to their proper situation for that purpose without loss of time, and without the tedious, and laborious operation of reining back, or the unmeaning ceremony of proving distance of files being at all necessary.

Method of telling off by three's, usually from the centre of squadrons.

In squadron three's are to be told off from the centre thus, the left hand Man of the right half squadron turns his head to the right, and with a loud voice tells himself *left*, the next Man in the like manner *centre*, and the third Man *right*, the fourth Man *left*, and thus till the right half squadron is told off.

The right hand Man of the left half squadron, turns his head to the left, and calls, *right*, the second Man *centre*, and the third Man *left*, the fourth Man, *right*, &c. &c.

Double column of ranks by three's from the centre of a line—a masterly movement when near an enemy.

But one of the most secure, decided, and masterly formations in Cavalry manœuvre is the double column of ranks by three's from the centre of the line with a front of 12 Men and Horses, and particularly so, when marching through a country, when near

near an enemy, and uncertain on what point or flank he meditates his attack. —It is thus formed, viz. the right wing wheels ranks by three's to the left—the left wing wheels ranks by three's to the right and halts, on the word march the whole move, and the inward three's at the head of wings, instantly get the word *shoulders forward,* the right wing, *left shoulders,* the left right shoulders, and move on with the standard in the centre, and an Officer at the head of the column to lead to the front, both wings move on and successively bring shoulders forward and follow in column, closing well up and dressing by the centre.—When the column is in full march, and it becomes expedient to form to the front on the head of the column both wings are ordered to front—right wing to the right, and left wing to the left. *Half squadrons right and left half wheel—march,* the half squadrons of the right wing half wheel to the left,—the half squadrons of the left wing, half wheel to the right, the left half squadron of the right wing, wheels the quarter circle to the left,—the right half squadron of the left wing, wheels in like manner to the right—halt and place markers—*march,* the half squadrons of the right wing come into line dressing by the left, those of the left wing, dressing by the right.

Method of forming the double column of three's from the centre and moving on.

Forming to the front on the head of the column and mode of performing it.

A very important advantage always

Instantaneous formation of a

ways derivable from this order of march is, that by the words *halt—front*, you have a wing formed to either flank in an instant, and ready if necessary to move on to the attack.

wing to either flank.

If it becomes necessary to form the line to the right, the whole halt—right wing only front—left wing march, and successively wheel by sections of three's to the right, move up by the right, and dress in line.

Facility of forming line to the right or left.

With the same facility, and by corresponding means, the line is equally rapidly formed to the left.

If it is expedient to resume the march in the same order and direction as before, it is done by changing front on a centre division, wings wheeling inwards by three's and form a double column as before.

When marching in the above order, the column is ready at any moment by the simple wheel of three's to make an instantaneous attack to right, left or rear, to either flanks by single wings, or the whole in column of wings.—A regiment of Cavalry well trained to the movements of this species of column, might securely march thro' myriads of irregular Cavalry, without their being able to make the smallest impression upon them, and whenever an advantageous opening for attacking with the column presented itself they are ready in an instant to avail themselves of it in any direction

The column ready at any moment to direct its attack against any point.

A corps well trained to the movements of this column secure against any number of irregular troops from the promptness with which it can make its attacks.

direction, without any other previous manœuvre, than wheeling ranks by three's to the point ordered.

SHOULDERS FORWARD.

Convenience of movement by shoulders forward,

This is a very convenient movement for column of march, or divisions changing their direction when the alteration does not require the entire wheel of a quarter circle, but must be considered as perfectly distinct, and performed on principles very different from regular wheeling—by means of this movement the $\frac{1}{8}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{2}$ or $\frac{3}{4}$ wheel are made on the move with much facility, both flanks in motion at the same time —But as the portion of the wheel necessary to be made is not explained by a cautionary command, as in direct wheeling, and indeed when the object is to alter the direction of the column to take up a new position on a distant point, it cannot be always correctly ascertained. When such a change is requisite to be made, the Commander of the column or the Adjutant should at that moment be on the pivot flank of the leading division, and give the word right or left shoulders forward, and when the leading division circles into the direction required he is instantly to give the word *forward,* the leading division leaving a rear point, that is a mounted Man on the spot, where the leading pivot moved from in the new direction, who is to be relieved by a Man

perfomed on different principles from wheeling.

Useful in changing the direction of a column to take up a new position.

Mode of leading division changing its direction.

Rear points requisite in all changes by the rear of the colomn to be relieved by a point from each successive division.

Man from the 2d division, when it arrives on the ground the first moved from,—he by a third,—and thus successively till the whole column has got into the new direction.

The Men's eyes are not to be turned from the point of dressing.

In shoulders forward, the eyes are not to be turned from whatever flank the march is made by, for instance a column right in front dresses of course by the left, should the word *right shoulders forward* be given to the leading division, the right flank of that division increases its pace, the left circling in conformity to the right, but at the same pace at which the column was marching before such order was given, and not an eye, turned from the left or pivot flank—which on the word forward pursuing its march on points taken in the new direction and without any alteration of pace; should the word left shoulders forward be given to a column right in front, the pivot Man, and that flank, circle at an increased pace to the right, the right flank conforming without any alteration of the rate at which the column was marching, or an eye being turned from the proper pivot flank—*forward* the leader marches in the new direction on points of view at the previous rate.

Right shoulders forward.

Attentions of flanks.

March on points taken in the new alignment.

Left shoulders forward.

The leader is not to take his eye from his point—nor is the division ever to turn an eye from him.

The leader of a division from his own judgment, or from previous instruction should know exactly what degree of shoulders forward is necessary to bring the division he commands

mands into the new direction, and when his own Horse is circled into that direction, he instantly gives the word *forward,* and moves in the new direction at the previous rate of march, his eye never once turned to the division, nor an eye of the division ever for an instant, turned from him.

Badconsequences of turning the Men's heads as in wheeling.

If troops are not well drilled to this movement, or are not particularly attended to and prevented from turning their eyes as in wheeling, the divisions are liable to crowding and disorder, especially when from open column the line is formed to the front by the echellon march of half squadrons at a gallop, for when the half squadrons march diagonally to within 8 or 10 yards of their places in line, the Men who turn their heads from their proper dressing flank at the word shoulders forward, generally turn their Horses heads also, which occasions the Horse to turn his legs, and at the word forward they turn their heads as before, and their Horses heads also, and occasion a violent shake throughout the division, and the Horses galloping false or disunited from having had their paces twice broken, frequently throw themselves across the rank, often come down, or by striking the feet and legs of the other Horses occasion thereby much injury and lameness to each other, and danger to their riders.

Tho' the Horses heads should be turned in the same manner as laid down for wheeling particularly at a gallop.

The causes of unsteadiness and intemperance in the Horses and also of lameness.

Dangerous to their riders.

COUNTERMARCHING.

COUNTERMARCHING.

There are various modes of countermarching divisions and line. Of divisions three only will be noticed here.

COLUMNS.

Countermarch of a column by advance of divisions and

1st. A column of half squadrons right in front is ordered to countermarch by divisions; (*i. e.* half squadrons)—on the caution *column countermarch by divisions*, the Officer's coverer on the pivot flank turns his Horse about on his own ground and halts—*column advance by the left—march* on which the whole move, and when they have advanced a space equal to half their interval *halt—from the right of divisions to the rear and right file,* on which the Horses are turned as ordered under the head of filing—*march* the whole successively get into file to the rear, turn to the right and close in, and form to the placed points.

Filing,

The above may also be performed by advancing by divisions a space equal to two thirds of their intervals, then *three's to the right—halt—wheel* and forms up to the Officers coverers, by shoulders forward

and also by ranks by three's.

2d. An open column of half squadrons standing right in front, on being ordered to countermarch, the Officer's coverer turns his Horse about as before ordered.—The word of

Countermarch of a column by wheeling about on the centre of each division.

of command is then given *by the right on your centre wheel* march, on which the right division of each half squadron moves forward a space equal to half their interval of the half squadron, dressing by the left, the word halt—wheel is then given on which the right division wheels to the left about and the left division to the right about, the left on its own ground, and the right division when wheeled about, moves forward, and dresses by the left division.—This mode will be found the readiest and probably the best.

Countermarch by putting the left half division about by three's, and wheeling about inwards.

3d. The left division of half squadrons go about by three's and halt, both divisions are then wheeled about inwards on their centre—*halt.* Left divisions *front.* This must be done very conveniently by shoulders forward, both divisions looking to their centre.

COUNTERMARCHING LINES.

Countermarch of the line, on the left half squadron of the line, and method of performing it.

1st. Line countermarch on the left half squadron, on which caution, a marker from each squadron moves out, and places himself behind the centre of his squadron, close to the rear rank and fronting the same way the line then does, and the left half squadron is cautioned when the line advances to wheel to the right and halt.—*Line by the left---march,* and immediately,---*half squadrons to the left,* and when advanced so as to clear the

the left flank of the left half squadron ---*halt—wheel,* on which the whole wheel into open column to the left, and halt—*column by the right march,* on which the column moves except the left half squadron which remains halted, till the following half squadron gets the word wheel, when it moves forward dressing by the right, leaving a rear point where its left stood, as a direction for the other divisions to wheel, when their left just clears that point, except the right half squadron of the line, which passes beyond this rear point, a space equal to its own front, then wheels to the left about, and immediately halts---*right wheel into line---march,* and the line is found exactly upon the same ground it stood upon before, but fronting the opposite way.

2d. On the caution line countermarch ranks by three's from the right--markers will immediately place themselves in rear of the centre of squadrons as before directed---*line advance by the right---march,* and immediately follows the word *three's to the right,* and when advanced two full Horses length---*halt---wheel---halt ---dress*---and then---*column---leading division left shoulders forward, by the left march,* on which the whole move. ---March in the new alignment, and when the change of flanks is completed---*halt---front---dress,* by the right or leading flank. Countermarch of the line, Ranks by three's.

3d. A

Countermarch of the line on the centre squadron,

and

method of executing it by half squadrons or by shoulders forward.

3d. A line of 3 squadrons is ordered to countermarch on the centre squadron, and two markers from the left half squadron of centre, place themselves behind the two rear rank flank files of the right half squadron facing the same way the squadron does—the left squadron goes about by three's by word of command from its own squadron Officer and halts—the word of command is then given—*flank squadrons move forward—march,* and immediately *half squadrons to the left*—and when advanced two Horses length—*halt— wheel— halt—dress—* by word from half squadron Officers — At the same moment, that the flank squadron move forward, the centre squadron gets the word—*by the right on your centre wheel* and forms its countermarch by word of command from its own squadron Officer, on the word *flank squadron march,* they move dressing by the left.---When the left half squadron of the right passes the rear of the centre squadron, a space equal to the squadron interval it gets the word *halt—left wheel—halt—dress —by the left march,* move up, halt and dress in line with the centre.---The right half squadrons pass in rear of the left, and when opposite its place gets the same words of command the left aid before, and moves up the same way, and dresses in line by the left—the left half squadrons with the rear ranks in front, move on in front of

of the centre—dressing by the left, wheel successively by half squadrons to the left, when at proper intervals move forward by word from half squadron Officer, and when a little passed to the rear of the centre half squadron —halt—front—dress up—march, by the right into line—markers having been previously placed.---This may also be done by the wheeling of divivisions of squadron, instead of half squadrons, and shoulders forward.

Countermarch of a line of 3 squadrons on the centre squadron.

4th. The line of 3 squadrons ordered to countermarch—flank squadrons wheel outwards by three's, and the centre squadron wheels about on its centre at the same moment and places markers---*flank squadrons right shoulders forward—march*, they both move dressing by the left, the right squadron in rear, the left squadron in front of the centre.---When the right squadron led by the right half squadron Officer is passing the right flank of the centre squadron, the squadron Officer places himself exactly at the interval of his squadron from the centre squadron, lets his squadron pass with three's well closed up, and when sufficiently beyond him, he gives the word *halt*--*front*--*dress* by and closing to the left, and when dressed he moves on to his post at the head of the squadron giving the word *eyes centre*, *march, and halt* in line.---The left squadron, led by the left squadron Officer moves on in front of the centre squadron—

Flank squadrons moving in ranks by three's.

squadron—the squadron Officer as the head of his squadron is passing the left of the centre squadron, places himself at interval distance, gives the word, *three's to the left*, and when they are sufficiently passed---*halt---wheel —halt—dress*, and close to their present left—*march* by the left, and when passed as far as the rear rank of the centre squadron—halt—front—dress and close to the right—he then moves to his post at the head of the squadron giving the word *eyes centre*, then *march* and halts in line, this is the simplest, and therefore probably the best mode of countermarch of three squadrons.

a simple but excellent mode of countermarch.

Countermarching a line of 4 squadrons. Ranks by three's and also by divisions and shoulders forward.

In countermarching a line of 4 squadrons, the 3d squadron wheels about on its centre—halts and places markers, the 1st and 2d squadrons wheel outwards by three's, the left squadron goes about and also wheels outwards by three's, both wings are then put in motion, and both by right shoulders forward complete their countermarch in the same way as directed for 3 squadrons—or the 3d squadron wheels about on its centre —the left squadron goes about by three's both flanks advance two Horses length, and then by word of command both wheel to the left by divisions of squadrons, *march* and form in line by shoulders forward.

Skirmishing.

Skirmishing.

Expert skirmishers are highly useful to a corps of Cavalry, either to mark formations or manœuvres of the line or column in presence of an enemy, or to cover a retreat---the men selected for this purpose should be bold, enterprising and good horsemen ---the Horses strong, active, steady at fire, and well managed—they should be disposed along the front or rear, their intervals in proportion to their numbers, and be attentive not to open or close too much.

Skirmishing useful to Cavalry and for what purposes.

Men and Horses to be selected for the purpose.

How disposed of.

In skirmishing the front file and his coverer in the rear rank should be inseparably attached, and on all occasions invariably act and regulate their movements, so as to mutually support and defend each other; in arranging the line of skirmishers it may be considered as a rule that the rear rank man should be placed on the left of his front file leader ---the front file told off as right---his coverer left, and that both their pieces should never be discharged at the same time, when the front rank discharges the rear rank man reserves his fire till the other is loaded, he then fires and thus alternately.

Front and rear files attached to each other.

Rule for arranging skirmishers.

Files to fire alternately.

The line or column advancing and pressing upon a retiring enemy, the right files may gallop forward 40, 60 or as many yards as will bring them within reach of the enemy, and fire carbines

Skirmishing in advancing and directions for performing it.

carbines or pistols, or both, the left files then gallop forward through the intervals, and when sufficiently advanced, fire in the same manner, the right files who by this time are loaded again advance as before, and thus alternately as long as it may be necessary.

The whole of the skirmishers to advance on a retiring enemy at once

It may sometimes be expedient for the whole of the skirmishers to advance at once and hang on the rear of a retiring enemy, so as to impede their progress as much as possible, till an opportunity offers of attacking them with advantage or cutting off their retreat.

Skirmishing to cover a retreat and mode of performance.

In case of repulse and the line or column of Cavalry retreating, the advanced files fire at the pursuing enemy, turn their Horses to the right about if they are using carbines, and to the left about if firing pistols, retire and when they have passed the rear files 20 yards front and load---the others then fire and retire in like manner, and continue thus alternately till ordered to join their squadrons.

Skirmishing alternately on the same ground.

Should the retiring corps halt and front, the skirmishers will then advance and retreat, firing alternately on their own ground.

Skirmishers covering a flank when marching and reconnoitring occasionally.

When the flank of a line of march is annoyed by an enemy, skirmishers in addition to the usual flankers, should be sent out to keep them at a distance---they may also be used with advantage to reconnoitre

noitre villages, and also woods, covers and hollow ways near the line of march, where ambuscades might be formed.

Small parties with drawn swords to support the skirmishers and reasons why.

It will at all times be proper, to have two or more small parties formed with drawn swords to support the skirmishers, and protect their flanks, the necessity of this will appear obvious, when it is considered the loose order in which they are formed, and that a small active body of the enemy's Cavalry getting on their flank, by a dash, might do them considerable injury, though so near their own line, before they could be assisted from it. —These parties should follow the skirmishers about half way between them and the line, and rather outflank them a little, in case of the skirmishers expending their ammunition, the parties will return swords, take up their places, and skirmish as before directed, and the skirmishers who are relieved will form up---strap up carbines---draw swords—and support in their turn.

Position of these parties. Skirmishers replaced by these parties and support in turn.

Flank subdivision to skirmish in front of an advancing line, fire and form up, resume their places in squadron and join in the charge.

Right or left flank subdivisions of squadrons are often sent out to skirmish in front of a line advancing to the attack, they continue firing at the enemy till the trumpet sounds the trot, which is their signal to form subdivisions in front of their intervals in the line, and when the line is passing their ground, they resume their places, and join in the attack.

In

Skirmishers to cover their whole front.

In all cases as above, skirmishers by subdivisions will divide the ground so as to cover the part of their respective squadrons, and half the interval between that, and the adjoining ones.

Active and well mounted Officers and non-commissioned Officers selected to command skirmishers.

An active well mounted Officer should be selected, to command the skirmishers of each wing, and clever non-commissioned Officers should be appointed to the two lines of right and left files of each wing.

Skirmishers to come in immediately on the signal for their recal and keep their Horses constantly moving when skirmishing.

Skirmishers should be very attentive to, and instantly obey the signal for recalling them, they should never be stationary for a moment, whilst skirmishing, but keep moving and turning their Horses to prevent the enemy's sharp shooters from taking steady aim at them.

Riding Lesson for a Regiment and Supplement thereto.

Trotting lesson. Galloping lesson. Attentions in these lessons.

A square of the usual dimensions should be laid down for each troop, and the trotting lesson as laid down in page No. (   ) or the galloping lesson as in page No. (   ) gone through with the most minute attentions to the several circumstances of execution, as they apply to both Man and Horse.

When the riding lesson is finished, the following Supplement will be performed.

SUPPLEMENT.

The line formed, dressed and told

The line of squadrons formed and accurately

accurately dressed, and the squadron of direction named—*line advance by the squadron of direction—march* every Horse in the line to be put in movement at the same instant, each squadron dressing by its own centre, and the leader of each squadron dressing and taking his distance from the leader of the squadron of direction.—The standard or centre files of each squadron, carefully preserving a Horse's length distance from the Officer leading the squadron.—The men with short reins, perfect position and steady attention *three's to the right,* after this caution, the line will be permitted to advance some distance and care taken that no shortening of pace is allowed—then *halt—wheel,* on which the whole wheel to the right by three's, and each squadron Officer gives the words *halt—dress* to his squadron, in the pause after the movement, the most correct steadiness in every Man and Horse must be exacted, and when perfectly steady—*by the left, march*—the whole move together in column of files to the right, the head of the column, walking well out, and left files covering—the whole with the most perfect uniformity of pace, and then *three's to the right,* and after a pause sometimes long, sometimes short *halt—wheel—and halt dress* by the squadron Officer—the line is now to the rear.—Rear rank leading

off. Line advance.

The whole line to move at the same instant.

Squadron of direction.

A Horse's length distance between the standard and leader in the centre.

Method of wheeling by three's on the move.

Column to the right 6 Horses in front.

Line facing to the rear.

leading, after a sufficient pause to have every Man and Horse steady.—*March* the whole move to the rear dressing as before by the squadron of direction, and when retired to the original ground *three's to the right about—halt—wheel,* on which they come about and get the word halt dress from their own squadron Officers, and when steady *march* the whole advance as before, then *three's to the left—halt—wheel—halt—dress* as before to the right and when quite steady—*march*—then *three's to the left—halt—wheel—halt---dress*—-the line now faced to the rear, rear rank in front, when steady *march*—the whole move dressing by the squadron of direction, and again get the word *three's to the left—halt—wheel* the whole wheel again to the left, get the word *halt—dress* from squadron Officers, and are now a column of three's to the right, and when steady *march* and then *three's to the right about—halt—wheel—halt—dress* as before and are now become a column of three's to the left, *march,* and when near the original ground they stood upon when first formed—*three's to the right,* and when on the original ground exactly *halt—wheel—halt—dress* as before and then by the squadron of direction—dress on which the squadron of direction places markers keeping the squadron well up to prevent the flank squadrons from

Line at its proper front.

Column of 6 Horses in front to the left.

Line to the rear.

Column to the right, 6 Horses in front.

Column to the left 6 Horses in front.

Line to its proper front on original ground.

Dress by squadron of direction.

from having occasion to rein back—all the other squadrons throw out markers, dress the line which when done, on the word *eyes front*, the markers rapidly resume their places in squadron—*from the right of three's to the front file*, each right hand Man of three's moves forward at the word at the moment, and halts his Horse when just clear of the front rank Horses—*march*, the right of three's moves forward, followed by the centre and left Man of three's of the front rank and then by the right, centre, and left of the rear rank, thus forming a column of six Horses deep—the squadron Officers lead their squadrons as before, covered at a Horse's length by the standard—the right hand Men of three's dressing by the centre and keeping an interval of rather more than two Horses breadth from each other—all the other files of sixes looking straight forward and covering exactly—when the whole is in steady movement the word is given *files to the right turn*, when each Man singly turns his Horse to the right, and on the word *forward* the whole moves in column of files to the right—a pause sometimes long, sometimes short, between the words *right* and *turn*—*files to the right—turn—forward*, the whole are now in column of six files to the rear, the left hand Men of three's of the rear rank leading. *Files to the right about—turn*

Eyes front.

Filing from the right of three's to the front.

Method of filing from the right of three's.

Files covering exactly.

Files right turn.

Column of files to the right.

Column of files to the rear.

Line of files 6 Horses deep to its proper front.

turn—forward the line is now to its proper front. *Circle entire to the right about---turn,* the whole turn singly the circle entire, and when to the proper front *forward—circle to the right---turn* on which each Man circles his Horse to the right on his own ground, and continues still *forward* is given when the whole move to their proper front, then perform the same series to the left upon the same principles and *halt*—and when perfectly steady *eyes front, ease hands.*

Circle entire to the right about.

Circle to the right.

Halt, eyes front. Ease hands.

On the word attention, the whole are steady, and then follows *front form squadrons—march,* on which the whole form up at a trot, dressing by the centre of each squadron, and when in line---*by the squadron of direction dress,* on which the squadron of direction sends out two markers one to each flank, to which all the other squadrons will conform by placing markers in line with those of the squadron of direction, which will take care to keep up full in the line, in order to prevent the necessity of the flank squadrons reining back in dressing, than which nothing has a worse appearance--dressing should be at all times a forward movement if possible. When the line is dressed —*eyes front ;* when the markers will nimbly resume their places—*ease hands* and finish.

Form squadron.

Dressing by the squadron of direction.

Method of dressing and requisite attentions.

Eyes front.

Ease hands.

The abstract series of this supplement is as follows, viz.---*line advance by*

Line advance and series of

by the squadron of direction, march, three's to the right, halt, wheel.

N. B. After the word wheel from the Commander of the whole the words halt---dress are given by each squadron Officer---*march, three's to the right, halt, wheel; march, three's to the right about, halt, wheel, march, three's to the left, halt, wheel, march, three's to the left, halt, wheel, march, three's to the left, halt, wheel, march, three's to the right about, halt, wheel, march, three's to the right, halt, wheel.*

words of command used in performing the supplement to the riding

By the squadron of direction dress, eyes front, from right of three's to front file, march, files to the right, turn, forward, files to the right, turn, forward, files to the right about, turn, forward, circle entire to the right about, turn forward, circle to the right, turn, forward, files to the left, turn, forward. files to the left, turn, forward, files to the left about, turn, forward, circle entire to the left about, turn, forward, circle to the left, turn, forward, halt, eyes front, ease hands, attention front form squadrons, march.

lesson for a regiment of Cavalry.

By the squadron of direction dress, eyes front, ease hands.

Complete the supplement.

Series of Drill for a Corps of Cavalry.

From the right to the front file---march as before directed—halt—front form—march as directed page ( ) from the right to the rear file march —halt

Filing from the right and left to front—flanks and rear.

—halt—rear form—march as directed—from the left to the front file—march—halt---front form---march---from the left to the rear file---march---halt---rear form---march.

N. B. These two filings from the left are performed upon the same principles as from the right, only substituting the word left for right.

From the right to the right file—march—halt—left form—march as directed—from the left to the left file—march—halt—right form—march as directed.

RANKS BY THREE'S.

Three's right wheel—march—halt—dress.

Drill in ranks by three's.

N. B. The wheeling of three's will continue to the right again, right about— left— left— left— right about and right, which brings the division to its original front.

SECTIONS OF THREE'S.

Drill in sections of three's.

Sections of three's from the right to the front--march--halt--front form—march.

Sections of three's from the left to the front, march, halt, front form, march, sections of three's from the right to the rear, march, halt, rear form, march, sections of three's from the left to the rear, march, halt, rear form, march, sections of three's from the right to the right, march, halt, left form, march, sections of three's from the left to the left, march, halt, right form, march.

RANKS

RANKS BY TWO'S.

Ranks by two's right wheel, march, halt, left form, march, ranks by two's left wheel, march, halt, right form, march. Drill in ranks by two's.

INCLINING.

Right incline, march, front, forward. By the right on your centre wheel, halt, wheel. Right incline, march, front forward, by the right on your centre wheel, halt, wheel, left incline, march, front, forward, by the right on your centre wheel, halt, wheel, left incline, march, front, forward, by the right on your centre wheel, halt, and *dress* on original ground. Drill in inclining or oblique march.

WHEELING.

The ranks opened and divisions take interval sufficient to prevent them interfering with each other in wheeling---*right quarter wheel, halt, dress,* repeated 3 times more, *right half wheel, halt dress* repeated once more, *right wheel, halt dress* repeated once more, *right about wheel, halt dress* repeated once more, *circle entire right about wheel, halt, dress* not repeated, *circle to the right wheel,* for as many evolutions as are necessary, *halt dress* not repeated. Wheeling drill.

The same series of wheels to be performed to the left.

SHOULDERS FORWARD.

This drill should be performed on the Drill in shoulders forward.

the move thus, march—right shoulders forward, and when the $\frac{1}{4}$ wheel—forward—repeated 3 times more, right shoulders forward the $\frac{1}{2}$ wheel—repeated 3 times more—right shoulders forward, the $\frac{3}{4}$ wheel forward repeated 3 times more.

The same series of movements to the left.

The foregoing series of Riding School Practise and Horse Drill contain every thing necessary to complete the Dragoon, and prepare him for squadron, conformable to the most approved practise of the Cavalry in Europe, and altho' it appears of considerable length in detail, is concise, and laconic in execution, and will be found on trial to answer its purpose; the mode of treatment recommended for forming the unbroke Military Horse is conformable to the best practise of that kind, and will to those who give it fair play, turn out satisfactory---many years practical experience in the British Cavalry, enables the author to pledge himself for its military utility, provided it has a fair, impartial, unprejudiced trial.